



A STUDY ON DEPENDENCY OF TEACHERS ON VARIOUS RESOURCES FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCESS

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ABSTRACT

Teachers depends upon various resources for supporting and making their teaching process more effective and efficient. The selection of resources may be depending upon the subject, curriculum, mode of teaching and assessment criteria. A survey study conducted among teachers to find out the type of resources mostly they depend and how far they make use of the technologies for facilitates the teaching more effective. The study reveals that majority of teachers depends upon books as their primary resource for preparing teaching materials. Teachers also prefers to make use of resources from internet and shared with students electronically. The dependency on technical journals is low as compared to other resources. An extensive awareness is required among teachers about the ethical and usage policies of resources taken from the internet. It is also widely accepted that the dependency on internet for resources will the improves the effectiveness of teaching process.

KEYWORDS: Internet, journals, cloud computing, technology based teaching and learning, Learning management system, email and shared folders.

Introduction

In this era of technology advancement and Internet a wide window is open for teachers to collect adequate resources that support their teaching process faster and better than past days. Information searching and gathering is now just a click away and teaching can be made effective with these wide ranges of resources available. The traditional teaching involves black board and book gradually replacing with smart boards and tablets. Cloud computing and content management systems also supports teachers to share their resources among students faster than before.

In this period student depends on technology based learning which involves the computer, Internet and smart devices support. Studies shows that technology will help to engage students in active learning as well for teachers in improved effective teaching methods [1]. There is a need of more studies in analyzing the teacher's involvement in improving their efficiency with the help of these technologies.

This study focuses on finding out how far the teachers make use of these technologies and advancements for their teaching support by analyzing their dependency on different resources that they used for supports their teaching process. The teachers mostly depend on the course related books or any other documents in most of the time and the additional information required will be gathered from online resources.

Research Methodology

The present study is based on the primary data collected from the teachers who working in different institutions, teaching different courses with wide range of experience. A well-structured questionnaire was designed and collected the data through online with cent percent response rate. The questionnaire designed with both open-ended and close-end questions and simple statistical methods were used for tabulation and analysis of data.

Data Analysis

The survey study carried out among 50 teachers who teaching undergraduate, graduate and master degree courses, which constitutes 70% of male and 30% of female. The majority of age distribution was between 30 to 39 years and the remaining proportion by teachers in age distribution from 21 to 29 and 40 to 49.

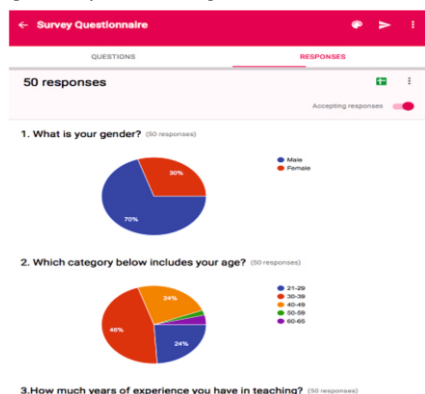


Chart 1: Distribution of respondents by gender

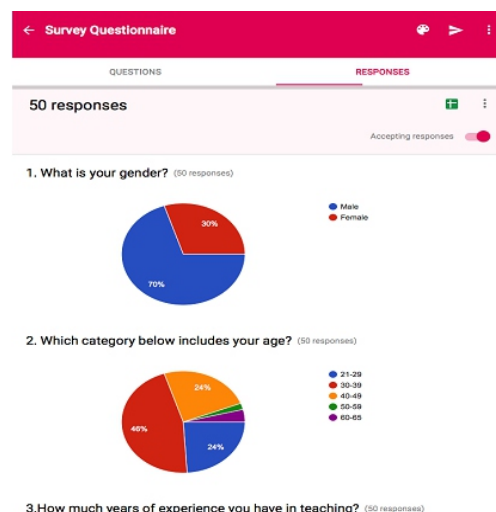


Chart 2: Distribution of respondents by age

The study carried out among the teachers having less than one-year experience to those who have more than experience of 5 years. The majority of respondent teachers having the teaching experience more than 5 years and least distribution having 4 to 5 years of teaching experience. Most of the teachers taught master degree courses and none from schools or certificate level courses.

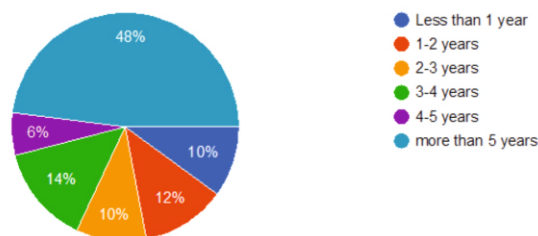


Chart 3: Distribution of respondents by years of experience in teaching

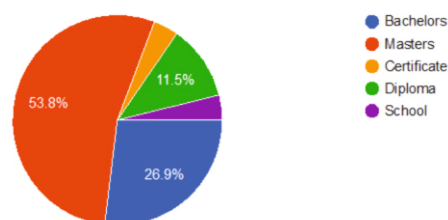


Chart 4: Level of courses taught

The survey mainly focused on identifying the level of dependency of teachers on various resources and provided them the list of resources such as books, journals and internet as choice of selection. From the collected data it is evident that the majority of teachers 62% highly depends on books, 26% depends on internet and only 4% depends on journal resources.

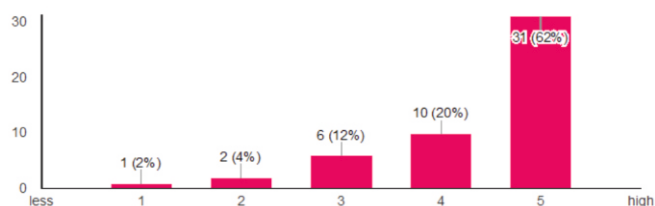


Chart 5: Use of books as teaching resource

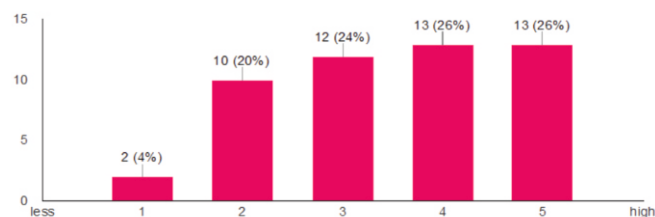


Chart 6: Use of Internet for collecting teaching resources

Most of the curriculum follows semester wise syllabus and set of books are mentioned for reference and further reading. The evaluation of learning also based on the contents from these books forced the teachers to depend on it mostly rather than any other resources. In some cases, for additional support they depend on internet resources or e-contents to make them more confident in teaching. Dependency on technical journals and literature is observed to be low as 8%.

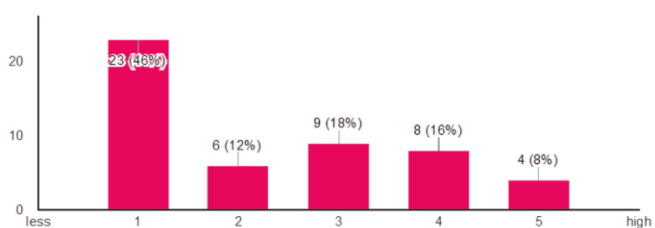


Chart 7: Use of journals as teaching resource

Teachers who depends on internet for the resources prefer to search the information using the search engines and gather the required information from the sorted websites. Most of the search process directed to power point presentations, Wikipedia articles, e-books and pdf files.

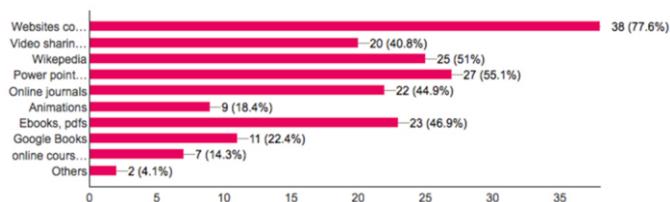


Chart 8: Internet resources used for supporting teaching process

The resources collected from the internet need to be shared with students for facilitating an effective learning. The sharing can be carried out by sending emails, sharing through social networks or messaging services. Learning management systems, content management systems, cloud storage applications are the effective and efficient mode of sharing resources to students in these era of information technology.

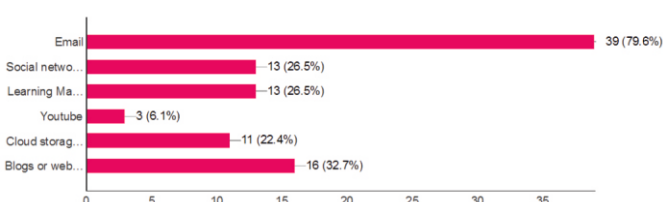


Chart 9: Preference of online service to share resources to students

The study shows that most of the teachers depends upon email for sharing the resources electronically among the students. Now a days cloud computing is more flexible to share and access resource at any place where the internet facility is available. If the institution has a learning management system or content management system teachers can share the resource among the students very effectively.

The opinion among the teachers about how far the usage of internet resources for making teaching effective also collected and found that 96% of them agrees that the usage and dependency of internet and internet resources will make the teaching process more effective. At the same time 34.8% of teachers were unaware about the copyrights and protection rights of adopting resources from internet.

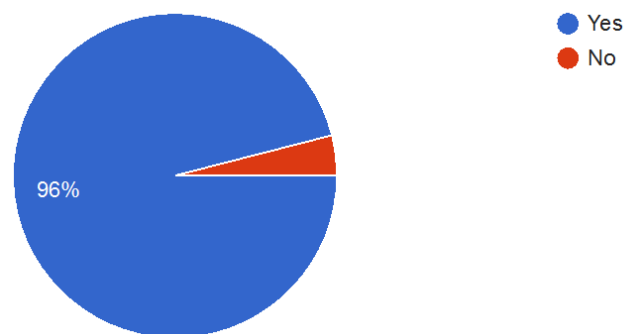


Chart 10: Opinion about usage of Internet resources for effective teaching

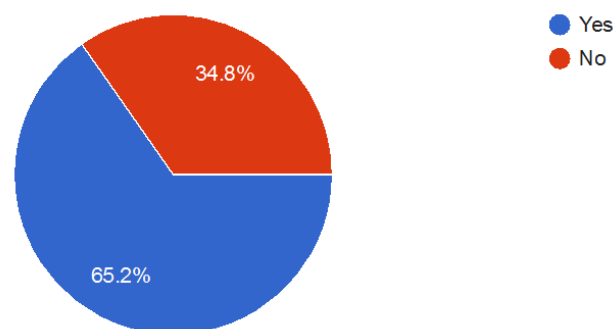


Chart 11: Awareness of copyright acts, protection rights and usage policies of resources from Internet

Discussion

The survey study reveals the following major findings

- Majority of teachers depends upon books as their primary resource of teaching.
- Very few teachers depend on technical journals for supporting the teaching process.
- Teachers who depends on internet for the resources prefer to search the information using the search engines
- The resources shared electronically by means of email most of the time.
- It is widely acceptable that dependency and usage of internet resources will improves the effectiveness of teaching.
- There is an unawareness among teachers about the copyright acts and usage policies of resources

Conclusions

The dependency of teachers on various resources for effective teaching process were studied through a statistical survey study and findings reveals that even the technology advancement cannot replace the books as it supports the learning and teaching process. The academic journals were least utilized for the teaching resource planning and most of the resources shared electronically. An extensive training program and awareness program required among the teaching community for make them aware about the copy right policies of using resources from internet. The learning and teaching process can be made more interesting by incorporating resources, apps, tools from internet and smart hardware like smart board, tablets etc. The accuracy of resources and adaptability must be closely evaluated before sharing it to the students. Technology advancements will revolutionize the teaching and learning process in coming future.

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